

Beach Commission Minutes- Meeting of 08/14/2012

Attending: Rian Wilkinson, Tim Shaw, John Bagwill, John Ceglarski, Dave Leys, Bill Seiple, John Crimmins

1. Open meeting at 4:35 pm

2. Approve minutes of June 12th meeting. No changes or corrections.

3. East Matunuck Pavilion Tour 6/15/2012- attending from the beach commission- R Wilkinson, J. Bagwill, D. Leys, and from the Council- A. Viveiros, C. Semonelli and also Tim Shaw and Tom O'Loughlin. Joe Dias, DEM conducted the tour of: (3) main structures- Concession- Storage and First Aid Room- Bathroom facilities -Office, Lifeguard tower.

The Beach Commission accepted and discussed notes prepared by John Bagwill - East Matunuck Pavilion tour of 6/15/2012.

- Observations: The pavilion is very “green” with solar, wind and bathroom composting equipment. Some of this is by necessity...it is doubtful, that sewer pipes run into that area and septic is not, totally acceptable. The price is high, however, with the green additions, probably, costing over \$500,000.00.**

- Design- simple and efficient.... A few more, 4-6, women's toilets and a lifeguard dressing room and it would work fine at Second Beach.**

- Cost- the State had the cost of \$4.5 Million- Farrer Assoc- Estimated \$5.5 - \$6 million.**

- Storage- At elevation 5-6', there would be little underside storage- boats, gators etc. (the town is now using several trailers for that purpose). A slightly higher elevation would be sufficient to store**

equipment under the building

Conclusion: Notes very complete and should help in future building considerations

4. Special joint Town Council/ Beach Commission meeting of 6/18/2012

- ***Renderings-** AG architects presented renderings based on model#Alt.. 2.. C RFG report..10/2011. **** Farrar Assoc, Newport, RI-** Jim Farrar itemized the construction costs...East Matunuck State Beach Pavilion (visited by a town group 6/15/12). He estimated future costs to be in the \$5.5-\$6 Million dollar range. He also noted that costs of raw materials and labor, were already beginning to escalate.
- **Discussion:** Several Town Council members spoke and, with the exception of C. Semonelli, were, against the proposal. There was also concern that the Fire Dept building bond could be in jeopardy if both bonds appeared on the Nov ballot, even though it had no tax liability. Rian also spoke concerning the buildings short-comings...etc. A few members of the audience spoke, but there was little support.
- **The Council decided to have a final vote on the pavilion proposal at their 7/2/12 meeting.**

5. Town Council meeting, 7/2/12. The Town Council reviewed a memo from Shawn Brown... Important Points. Due to lack of support, Town Council should stop the beach bond question from appearing on the Nov. 2012 ballot.

**** Create an advisory committee to study options for improvements**

and/or replacements of the Second Beach Pavilion.

After a short discussion, the Town Council voted, unanimously, to approve his recommendations. There was no public comment.

6. Facility Advisory Committee: The Beach Commission recommended that John Crimmins be the committee's representative on the Sachuest Beach Advisory Committee...with John Ceglarski as alternate.

Some members were concerned that, ever after 7 years of study, there was only one Beach Committee member on the new advisory committee.

The Beach Commission also directed Rian to contact Shawn Brown concerning having Tim Shaw and Tom O'Loughlin as ex-officio members on the new committee. They, both, have extensive background concerning the present building and proposals.

7. Committee Protocol..Guidelines.. Rian reminded members that they can't interview or direct beach staff. If you see a problem or have suggestions, you should contact the beach manager, Tim Shaw or make a request for the concern to be added to the Beach Committee agenda.

8. AM parking..Beaches..John Bagwill requested that AM parking, especially at the Rock lot, be reviewed. He observed that there were many cars without town stickers between 8-9 am. Most are, probably, surfers or groups finishing up the many exercise programs that are scheduled in the AM. This problem has been addressed previously by the Beach Commission and a solution, without tagging and towing, is not an easy one. Beach staffers do use a megaphone to

notify patrols that they must leave or pay a parking fee. This is not 100% effective, but many comply. Some of the same situations occur at the Main lot and Third Beach, but to a lesser degree.

Recommendations:

- Signage, notifying patrons of the parking regulations, should be located on the beach side of the lot. There are 2 such signs located at the tri-angle lot...across the street..but they are not easily seen.**
- Notices should be placed on the windshields of the cars without stickers. These notices would explain the rate options..Daily..Seasonal etc. Also, it would inform illegal parkers that if they have stayed at the beach, they are responsible to pay the parking attendant when they leave.**
- Other options/solutions should be considered by Tim Shaw, Town Administration and Beach Manager during the off season.**

9. Kite Surfing- Most kite surfing problems, now, occur during September. Many Kite Surfers feel they can sail anywhere on the beach and consequently do endanger swimmers during September.

Recommendations:

Recreation Dept make up a sheet showing the legal kite surfing/launching area through 10/1. These can be handed out or placed on windshields.

10. New Business

***** Beach Staff.... Beaches have never looked better...Great Job to all town departments involved with the beach**

Meeting adjourned 5:47 pm.